

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI DALBIR SINGH): (a) and (b). Reserve Bank of India have reported that nationalised bank do not make separate allocation for implementation of the official language (Hindi) policy. The expenditure on this item is included under establishment and other administrative expenditure.

(c) and (d). Do not arise.

Waiving of Bank Loans of 1984 Riot Affected Persons

3818. SHRI BARE LAL JATAV: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to write off the bank loans of riot affected people of 1984;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not the, reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI DALBIR SINGH): (a) There is no proposal to write off the bank loans to 1984 riot-affected borrowers.

(b) and (c). Reserve Bank of India (RBI) have advised all scheduled commercial banks including foreign banks as under:

- (i) The banks should make a review of the credit facilities granted to all the November, 1984 riot-affected borrowers. The review should take into account their repaying capacity, the operations in their accounts, the nature and type of the securities available, the present condition of the securities, other assets, if any, owned by them and all other relevant factors.

- (ii) On the basis of the review, banks should decide the case of each loanee on merits and afford such reliefs as may be considered reasonable. The reliefs may include further extension of time for repayment of dues, entering into compromise arrangement and, in cases, where there are no reasonable chances of recovery of dues, write off of the amounts due from the borrowers concerned.

Further, consequent to the decision of the Government of India to grant relief in deserving cases by charging interest upto 31st December, 1989 on eligible loans taken by November, 1994 riot-affected borrowers at 6% per annum, RBI has in September, 1990 circulated to all commercial banks the guidelines on "Central Interest Subsidy Scheme for November, 1984 Riot Affected Borrowers."

Assistance of Defence Laboratories to Industries

3820. SHRI GOVINDRAO NIKAM: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have any proposal to provide assistance of defence laboratories and scientists to the industries in our country;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI SHARAD PAWAR): (a) Raksha Mantri while addressing 5th Congress on High Technology, New Delhi on 21 Nov 1991 had stated that where needed, our industries can use Defence Laboratories as a carrier to introduce new technologies and the quality culture in their products as the French and

American industries have done. This step has benefitted these countries by transferring military technology culture to civil industry.

(b) Civil industry can avail the technologies and expertise available at the defence laboratories not only for producing items required for defence but also for using the know-how for producing civil products as well. The availability will of course depend upon the present load experienced by the particular laboratory.

(c) Does not arise.

[English]

Indo-German Advisory Group

3821. SHRI SRIBALLAV PANIGRAHI:
Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have set up any Indo-German Advisory Group to evolve formula for aid ; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE
MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI RAMESH-
WAR THAKUR): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

Non-Encashment of Letter of Credit.

3822. SHRI VIJAY NAVAL PATIL:
SHRI JAGAT VIR SINGH
DRONA:

Will the Minister of COMMERCE be
pleased to state:

(a) whether the exporters to the erst-
while Soviet Union are facing difficulties due
to non-encashment of letters of credit;

(b) whether the Government have re-
jected the plea of exporters for encashment
letter of credit;

(c) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(d) the steps the Government propose
to take to remove the difficulties of exporters
and to arrange for the outstanding payments
to them?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE
MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI P. CHI-
DAMBARAM): (a) to (d). Following the dis-
solution of the Soviet Union, the Reserve
Bank of India was constrained to hold in
abeyance operations of the accounts in India
of the Bank for Foreign Economic Affairs of
USSR. Consequently, reimbursement of
payments to exporters was stopped on
27.12.91. This resulted in some degree of
uncertainty in the export climate to Russia.
Subsequently the following arrangement
were worked out to facilitate payments in
respect of trade commitments already made
by Indian exporters. The Reserve Bank of
India agreed to settle the replenishment
claims from authorised dealers in India,
maintaining the accounts of the Bank for
Foreign Economic Affairs of USSR, in re-
spect of (i) goods shipped upto 31st Decem-
ber, 1991; (ii) goods shipped after 31st
December, 1991 but not later than 31st
March, 1992, against Letters of Credit al-
ready opened by banks in the erstwhile
Soviet Union and advised to the Indian
exporters upto 31st December, (iii) payment
due to India project exporters upto 31 De-
cember, 1991 and duly certified for payment
by the employers.

[Translation]

Restructuring of Central Board of Excise and Customs

3823. SHRI RAJESH KUMAR: Will the
Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state: